

Message Text

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47

ACTION NEA-07

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FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7884

INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

C O N F I D E N T I A L BEIRUT 15622

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, PINT, LE

SUBJECT: GALLAGHER/DYKES

1. "L'ORIENT-LE JOUR" DEC 29 CARRIES UNDER HEADLINE "QADHAFI
'WE HAVE ONLY FINANCED RELIGIOUS AND SOCIAL PROJECTS IN LEBANON'"
AFP ARTICLE WHICH READS IN TRANSLATION AS FOLLOWS:

2. BEGIN TRANSLATION. "TRIPOLI, DEC 28. COL. QADHAFI, LIBYAN
CHIEF OF STATE, DECLARED HE IS PREPARED CONTRIBUTE BY ALL MEANS
TO A SETTLEMENT OF THE LEBANESE CRISIS. HE MADE THIS DECLARA-
TION IN THE FIRST ISSUE OF THE WEEKLY 'ISLAMIC CHRISTIAN DIALOGUE'
WHICH WAS PUBLISHED ON SUNDAY IN FRENCH AND IN ARABIC BY THE
SECRETARIAT OF THE ISLAMIC CHRISTIAN CONFERENCE OF TRIPOLI WHICH
WILL BEGIN FEBRUARY 1. THIS CONFERENCE WILL LAST FIVE DAYS AND
24 UNIVERSITY GRADUATES AND RELIGIOUS LEADERS OF CHRISTIAN AND
MOSLEMS, FAIITHS, INCLUDING ESPECIALLY A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE
VATICAN, WILL PARTICIPATE. THE MAGAZINE PUBLISHED AN
INTERVIEW BETWEEN COL QADHAFI AND COL LAHOUD OF THE
LEBANESE ARMY IN WHICH THE LIBYAN CHIEF OF STATE RE-
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AFFIRMED THE NON-INTEFERENCE OF LIBYA IN THE INTERNAL

LEBANESE AFFAIRS AND STRESSED THAT THE SOLE ROLE OF LIBYA WAS TO FINANCE IN LEBANON VARIOUS SOCIAL AND RELIGIOUS PROJECTS.

3. THE CHIEF OF STATE FURTHER INDICATED HIS DECISION TO SUSPEND THE DELIVERY OF WEAPONS TO THE LEBANESE ARMY AND THAT THIS DECISION WAS BASED ON THE FACT THAT THESE WEAPONS ARE NOW IN THE HANDS OF THE CHRISTIAN PHALANGISTS. QADHAFI 'WOULD NOT ACCEPT THAT PALESTINIAN COMMANDOS BE KILLED BY LIBYAN WEAPONS.'

4. FURTHERMORE IT IS INDICATED IN TRIPOLI THAT THE LEADERS OF THE THREE PALESTINIAN REJECTIONIST MOVEMENTS WHO ARE OPPOSED TT ANY COMPROMISE IN THE MIDDLE EAST CRISIS, DR. GEORGE HABASH, MR. AHMED JIBRIL, AND MR. NAYEF HAWATMEH, MET SUNDAY WITH THE LIBYAN LADERS. NO DETAIL OF THESE CONVERSATIONS HAS BEEN REVEALED." END TRANSLATION.

5. WE UNDERSTAND THAT JIBRIL, HABASH, AND HAWATMEH ARE RPOCEEDING TO ALGIERS WHERE THEY WILL DOUBTLESSLY RECEIVE RED CARPET TREATMENT AND MAY RETURN TO TRIPOLI. WE, THEREFORE, RECOMMEND THAT ALGIERS AND TRIPOLI BE ASKED TO DISCUSS IF POSSIBLE GALLAGHER/DYKES WITH APPROPRIATE ALGERIAN/LIBYAN AUTHORITIES WHO MIGHT IN TURN PREACH SOME MODERATION AND MOSLEM/CHRISTIAN BROTHERLY LOVE TO HABASH.

6. WHILE WE CERTAINLY HOPE TO HAVE GALLAGHER/DYKES BACK WITH US BEFORE FEBRUARY 1. JUST AS A CONTINGENCY WE BELIEVE THEIR CASE MIGHT BE DISCUSSED WITH VATICAN. GODLEY

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